

Third-Party Opinions

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At the end of the previous year, the birth of the Abe administration brought with it a rapid succession of bold monetary policies, flexible fiscal policies, and expectations for a growth strategy that could awaken private-sector investments, all of which were aimed at taking the country out of deflation. With the correction of the yen appreciation, exports recovered and production activities made a gradual comeback. Despite some confusion in the stock markets, we began to see signs of improvement in the business environment, particularly for major corporations.

As in the previous year, I have been given the opportunity to read this report. Last year, I pointed out that readers would not be able to get a sense of the stakeholders' point of view if the report contained nothing more than a list of activities. As such, I suggested the inclusion of dialogues with the local community or business partners. Upon reading the report for this year, I note the concrete effort to resolve this issue through the inclusion of the "VOICE" columns. While there is still room for improvement, I hope to see continued efforts to enrich this document.

This report also introduces, for the first time, the use of the international GRI guidelines, which promotes the formulation of policies for environmental, social, and economic development. This creates a strong appeal for TOK's CSR initiatives, signaling the company's move toward global standards.

As described in this report, TOK is set to enhance its globalization efforts, as shown by the plan to increase overseas sales ratio in its new Medium-Term Plan, as well as the establishment of a new subsidiary in Korea. Currently, compliance violations, such as the use of child labor, are



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a frequent occurrence among companies that are expanding their businesses overseas. These violations are also becoming a social problem. Furthermore, in the environment aspect, in tandem with the expansion in the scope of activity of human beings as a result of globalization, and the dramatic growth in the scale of these activities, global environmental issues such as climate change and biodiversity are increasingly being perceived as threats to the Earth and to humankind.

These problems cannot be resolved on the strength of a single country. Rather, these are issues that have to be tackled by the international community across national boundaries. To that end, I hope that TOK will further expand the scope of its information disclosure, and take initiatives to collect Group-wide data that encompasses its overseas subsidiaries, or to establish medium- to long-term quantitative goals. I look forward to reading reports that provide such information and summaries.

Finally, as described in TOK's management vision as laid out in your new medium-term plan, I hope to see the company contribute to the development of society, and take on initiatives with a distinct "TOK character," by providing users with inspiration through the development of high value-added products.

On Receiving Third-Party Opinions

This year, we have once again had the pleasure of having our CSR report evaluated, and of receiving valuable comments on the report. I would like to express my sincere gratitude. As we move toward the realization of a sustainable society, the realm of social responsibility that a company should fulfill is growing in tandem with the times. In particular, compared to the past, there are now greater expectations and demands placed on a company that is expanding its business overseas. Starting this year, TOK has gained a stronger awareness of international guidelines such as the GRI standards and ISO26000, and has begun putting effort into implementing CSR initiatives with a global perspective.

For this issue, we take Professor Fukuda's comments on expanding the scope of information disclosure and establishing medium- to long-term quantitative goals seriously. We regard these



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as issues to be resolved, and it is our intention to tackle these one step at a time. TOK is committed to creating social values through our microprocessing technologies, in our position as a "company that creates inspiration." By doing so, we aim to win the trust of all our stakeholders and become a company with a strong appeal. We hope to contribute to the realization of a sustainable society.

Request for Information

Through the Eco Hotline, our CSR Report has been made available at libraries, universities, and other facilities throughout Japan. You may also submit a request for a copy of the CSR Report directly from the company, through the following URL.

<http://www.ecohotline.com>